REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Twenty-fourth Anniversary Meeting

OF THE

GENERAL CHRISTIAN

MISSIONARY CONVENTION,

HELD IN LOUISVILLE, KY.,

October 24, 25 and 26, 1872.

CINCINNATI:
BOSWORTH, CHASE & HALL, Printers.
1872.

OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION.

President,

R. M. BISHOP.

Vice-Presidents,

ISAAC ERRETT, | R. MILLIGAN,
W. K. PENDLETON.

THOMAS MUNNELL, *Corresponding Secretary.*
D. W. CHASE,
J. W. MCGARVEY, } *Recording Secretaries.*
F. M. GREEN,
W. S. DICKINSON, *Treasurer.*
B. W. WASSON, *Auditor.*

Board of Managers,

A. I. HOBBS, | H. S. BOSWORTH.
M. H. SLOSSON, | W. H. HOPSON,
W. S. DICKINSON, | R. R. SLOAN,
B. W. WASSON, | W. H. LAPE,
O. A. BURGESS.

Executive Committee,

A. I. HOBBS, *Pres.*, | ISAAC ERRETT,
W. S. DICKINSON, | B. W. WASSON,
M. H. SLOSSON, | D. W. CHASE, *Sec.*

General Christian Missionary Convention.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY.

THE AMERICAN CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY CONVENTION assembled in the basement of the Christian Church, corner of Fourth and Walnut Streets, Louisville, Ky., at 2 P. M., Thursday, October 24, 1872.

President, R. M. Bishop, in the Chair. The exercises were opened by reading the 16th chapter of Mark. The Convention united in singing, after which it was led in prayer by R. Milligan, of Kentucky.

On motion of Dr. W. H. Hopson, of Ky., the usual committees were appointed as follows:

On Credentials—W. J. Barbee, Kentucky; James Challen, Ohio; B. K. Smith, Indiana.

On Order of Business—W. H. Hopson, Kentucky; R. Moffett, Ohio; B. B. Tyler, Indiana; John C. Tully, Illinois; Geo. A. Merwin, New York.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following delegates:

NEW YORK.—W. A. Belding, George Merwin.

WEST VIRGINIA.—W. K. Pendleton, A. E. Myers.

PENNSYLVANIA.—O. Higgins, W. L. Hayden, Mrs. Mary Hammond, life directors.

OHIO.—Isaac Errett, A. I. Hobbs, J. C. Irvin, R. R. Sloan, F. M. Green, T. D. Garvin, James Challen, S. E. Shepherd, Jabez Hall, W. T. Moore, life directors; Isaac Strickle, life member; Mollie B. Moore, life director; W. S. Dickinson, life director; Mrs. Ella B. Dickinson, life director; R. Moffett, life member; J. B. Knowls, life director; S. B. Bently, life director; R. M. Bishop, life director; Mrs. R. M. Bishop, life director: J. J. Moss, A. Teachout, W. T. Boaz, life members; W. B. Wasson.

MICHIGAN.—E. A. Lodge, L. R. Gault, Eli Regal.

INDIANA.—R. L. Howe, J. M. Tilford, D. R. Van Bus-

kirk, W. B. Hendryx, J. F. Sloan, B. K. Smith, Mrs. N. J. Boaz, life members; W. F. Black, Z. T. Sweeney, W. P. Aylesworth.

ILLINOIS.—O. A. Burgess, life director; Enos Campbell, M. N. Lord, J. C. Tully, G. E. Sweeney, Oscar F. Lane, J. C. Reynolds.

GEORGIA.—E. Holland, A. Howell, T. M. Harris.

KANSAS.—D. L. Thomas, K. Shaw.

KENTUCKY.—J. B. McGinn, W. Small, life members; R. C. Rickets, A. Adams, B. S. Campbell, life members; W. H. Lape, life director; Mrs. M. A. Lape, life director; John S. Sweeney, William J. Barbee, H. McDiarmid, Thomas Munnell, J. D. Picket, life members; R. Milligan, life director; Mrs. E. R. Milligan, life director; W. H. Hopson, E. Goodwin, life director; John A. Dickinson, life member; John Shackleford, Sr., life member; Mrs. Ann Shackleford, life member; Mrs. W. H. Hopson, life member; C. K. Marshall, John Shackleford, Jr. life member; L. Cave, H. Pangburn, W. Withers.

IOWA.—J. B. Vawter, E. T. C. Bennett.

MISSOURI.—W. F. Burch.

On motion of Thomas Munnell, D. W. Chase, of Ohio, was chosen to assist the Secretary in his work.

The Committee on Order of Business reported as follows:

1. From 8 to 9 A. M., and from 7 to 7½ P. M., each day, to be devoted to social meeting.
2. President's Address.
3. Report of Board of Managers.
4. Adjourn at 4½ P. M.
5. Address by James Challen, at 7½ P. M.

This partial report was adopted.

The President read his annual address, which was listened to with deep interest.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

Brethren of the General Missionary Convention:

It is with pleasure that I welcome you to another Anniversary of our Convention. Another Missionary year, with its joys and sorrows—its hopes and fears—its successes and failures, has gone to the record, and is now numbered with the things that are past. In renewing that year, we must at once acknowledge, that our work has come very far short of the demands that are made upon us, to have the Gospel preached to the nations. And, yet we have reason to believe, that what has been accomplished is of a much more permanent character

than our successes in former years. It seems to me that we are just beginning to understand *how* to work. For many years we have been discussing the best method of *raising* money. During this time we seem to have lost sight of the best method of *using* it. It is certainly very important to know how to raise money, and to this end it was necessary to have some such plan as we are now working under; but it is equally important to know how to use this money when it is obtained—how to disburse it so as to bring the best results to the Lord's cause. I think we are now beginning to understand this last matter also. Hitherto we have scattered our scanty means too much. To use a military phrase, we have paid little or no attention to strategic combination and movements. But now we are beginning to learn how it is that "the children of this world are wiser in their generation than the children of light," and the understanding of this matter will, I think, be of great service to us. Instead of attempting to convert the whole country in a few years, as seems to have been the philosophy underlying our work in the past, we are now attempting to make sure of a few important points, and when these are well secured, to move from these to others, and thus by a succession of movements—each one a success in itself—the world can be converted to God.

Thus it will be seen that our work is becoming more systematized and consistent in all of its parts. We have at last settled upon a uniform plan of co-operation in missionary labor. I say we have *settled* upon this, and such, I think, is the fact, if it is possible for us to settle upon anything. Still, I do not mean that every body is now working under this plan, or, that is is satisfactory to all of our brethren. There are some who will never be satisfied with anything, for their mission seems to be to find fault; and there are others who will never *work* under anything, for their mission seems to be to study how to avoid work, rather than to learn how to do it. Still, it can not be denied, that our brotherhood are now very generally satisfied with our present plan of co-operation, and are determined to push on until its success is finally assured. As proof of this, I have only to point to the fact that a few of our State Conventions have proposed to raise about one hundred thousand dollars during the current year for missionary purposes. This is in the right direction, and clearly indicates that we are entering upon a new era in our missionary work. But even this sum will be poorly sufficient to meet the many calls which are coming from all over the world. Truly the harvest is great, but the laborers are few.

It is simply a shame that we, as a religious people, have no

mission among any other than English speaking people. We have talked of a German mission, but so far it has been all talk. Shall we ever get away from the discussions of marvelously small matters to something like an appreciation of the great work God has committed to our hands? Must we continue to fritter away our resources and cramp our energies by attempting to settle the difference between *tweedle dum* and *tweedle dee*, while the great world is begging us for the Bread of Life? I hope that the time has at last come when we may understand that, however important Faith and Hope may be, Love is even greater than these, and without this last all else is "as a sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal."

I hope that our present meeting will be a joyous one, and that it will be characterized by that wisdom which cometh down from above which "is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."

After the President's Address the Convention listened to the report of the Board, which was read by the Corresponding Secretary, Thomas Munnell, of Kentucky.

REPORT OF THE BOARD.

DEAR BRETHREN: — The labors of the closing year in our various home missions have resulted in the collection of $54,601.36, the addition of 6,980 to the church, the organization of 59 congregations, and many other good fruits, hereafter to be detailed. In some of the States, the success of the present year is decidedly in advance of that of the year previous. In Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska less money has been raised than during 1870-71, owing to local obstructions and the lack of a sufficient force in the field. This has lowered the sum total for the year. Missouri has had no State Evangelist this year, except a portion of T. P. Haley's time, who merely did the correspondence. Nebraska, only since May, has had part of the time of R. C. Barrow. But these difficulties we trust will be obviated, and the brethren of these States be enabled to make the exhibit the year to come which they so ardently desire. Iowa has gained about 100 per cent.; Illinois, 55 per cent.; Indiana, 100 per cent.; Michigan, 150 per cent.

Most of the other States have varied but little from their last year's results. In all the States, however, there is an evident growth in all the *promissory* elements of success; and this growth has been gradual and evident from the very inception of our present system of co-operation. Four years ago, when

the present Board and Corresponding Secretary were appointed, no two States were co-operating in any one system, and but two States were working with any regularity or system as States. Three financial systems were in vogue. The General Board had its own agents in the field. So had the State Boards, as well as the District Boards, each sending their appeals to the same churches, often at the same time. It was soon discovered that to unify our financial system was essential to missionary success. Incipient agreement to this and other important matters was secured by the persistent labors of the Secretary the first six months of the year 1868-69, which prepared the way for the appointment of the Committee of Twenty, in St. Louis in May, 1869. Ten States were induced during that summer to nominate additional members to sit with said Committee in Louisville, in October, 1869, to prepare our present plan, which was then and there unanimously ratified by six hundred delegates from fifteen different States. Still this was the day of small things. No State as yet had agreed to work by it. It was the labor of our second year to secure such agreement, besides raising $37,000, and adding 3,340 to the church. This was no little gain upon the year preceding. Still our machinery had scarcely made a single revolution. Whether it would stand the test of actual experience, and prove itself capable of operating the potencies of a great people, was not clear to all. Our third year was begun with still lingering, though unwelcome, doubts, in many minds. It was regarded as a test year, but when it closed up with more than $48,000 and 7,000 added to the church, all could see that a gradual progress was being made. The tabular and other statements that sum up the results of this year will show that progress and growth still mark our movements, and give us good reasons for hope in years to come. For this hope we rely not so much on the labor report below, as upon the moral conditions that are being developed in the ministry and in the churches.

1. Persistent efforts have been made, especially during the past three years, to impress the home ministry with the weight of their responsibility in raising missionary money in their respective congregations. An evident improvement is being realized in this respect. Many ministers of leading influence are beginning to discharge this duty, and when the time comes that every one of them, in all the States, shall deliver his own conscience only by regular attention to all missionary contributions, and every evangelist shall thereby be restored to the legitimate work of his sacred office—preaching the gospel to the world, and "setting in order the things that are wanting"

in needy churches—this work of the Lord will truly prosper in our hands.

2. Six years ago the Sunday school interests were voted out of the General Convention as not cognate to the purposes before us. No exponent of our progress is more signal than our present views and labors to save the children for the Lord. It is now regarded as the most precious missionary field within our reach. The subject is now before every Convention, both great and small. Special agents are being employed for the work, money contributed to aid weak schools and establish new ones, Sunday School Institutes, *to show teachers how to teach*, have already been established in several States, and in many districts; an attempt has been made the past year by the Standing Committee to gather the Sunday School statistics of all the States, presenting the whole number of schools, the number of scholars and teachers, and all other facts and data necessary for intelligent enterprise. So well are the brethren agreed as to the missionary character of the Sunday school work, that in several States it is all being resolved into one work, to be operated by the same Boards, the same treasuries, and the same evangelists. In some States, the additional agent for special Sunday school work is appointed to specially educate a race of Sunday school teachers and superintendents, which is one of the greatest necessities of our times. If church members were first *taught how to teach*, there would be but little hesitancy in taking Sunday school classes. Our purpose is to secure much of the time of the district evangelists, also, in this work.

3. The resolution of different States at their last Convention to raise definite sums of money for missionary purposes during the current year, makes another milestone in our progress to greater efficiency. Ohio led off with the purpose of raising $20,000; Illinois resolved next to raise $25,000; Kentucky, $20,000, Pennsylvania, $5,000; Indiana, $25,000; West Virginia, $2,500; Virginia, $5,000; while New York and Michigan each have determined to raise a dollar to the member. Whether any of these States realize the full amount proposed, the movement must be hailed as an omen of good, indicating a vigorous growth over the past, and a sense of individual responsibility upon the churches and their officers. We will soon be able to so depend upon the missionary spirit of the churches that a certain amount of work can be projected for the year, in the full confidence of raising the necessary funds to carry it on. This method of raising money to which we are fast advancing, will contrast agreeably with that of former years when we were unable to assume any considerable risk or project any worthy enterprise, because the money was not

already in the treasury. But God is blessing the unflagging energies of those who have never for a moment yielded to discouragement in the days of darkness, when everything looked intractable, unwieldy and unpromising. Every great movement for good is born of tribulation, and it seems necessary for every individual and every people that have a great mission before them, to be schooled in the straitness of incipient good before they are qualified to manage the larger interests of the kingdom of God.

Other indications of a healthy growth might be named, such as the rising religious spirit of all our conventions, and the almost total absence of all desire to dispute about plans and other dead issues, that formerly wasted so much of our time. It is also worthy of note that a sense of *permanency* is spreading over the minds of all as to our system of co-operation. The plan seems to have been laid in such wisdom that three years' practical working has discovered no defect which the Board deems worth naming to the Convention. A sense of unchanging permanency, a religious, rather than a controversial, spirit in all our assemblies, and a missionary home minister, will overcome all difficulties heretofore in the way of success. The forest requires many a solid blow, much patience, labor, time and expense before it yields a single crop. The Baptist Home Missions have done as much the last ten years as in the previous thirty, and all great benevolent movements that have powerfully stirred the hearts of a great people have been of slow growth for years at first, to which rule our missionary enterprise will of course form no exception. Still, we have no reason to be discouraged in view of this third annual report of our labors.

A lack of full and accurate statistics makes much against this and all our previous showings. Much is done every year that is never reported. Our churches are not yet apprised of the value of statistics, and hence it is very difficult to get them to fill and return the blanks we send them. In most States the general information we have received has been gathered up by the industry of our evangelists in making inquiry of individuals here and there, who could report for certain sections of their respective States. For years we have done ourselves great injustice by publishing no money raised except what has been paid for missions, which is one of the lightest columns in all our givings. Other Protestants publish the sums total of all they, in every way, contribute for the cause of Christ, amounting to millions, whereas our liberality has been represented simply by our missionary collections. The Disciples also give millions, if we count expenses for home preaching, church

building, and all other religious purposes. It must be a gratification to the brethren of the State of New York to know that while their few churches have been able to give only $2,544.09 for missions the past year, they have contributed for all religious objects $37,672.85, or more than $10 to the member. The Disciples in Pennsylvania also, having contributed for missions the past year only $3,003.66, have given for all purposes $62,316.74, an average of nearly $10 to the member. Nor is it any interference with the rights of any church in Ohio for us to ascertain that her 33,000 members have contributed the last twelve months $350,000, or $10.60 to the member. But less than the fortieth part of this sum has been given for missions, which, if published alone, would greatly misrepresent their liberality. The same points may be made as to reporting all our additions, our Sunday schools, our entire number of members, our ministerial force, etc. The efforts made in all our papers to announce our weekly or monthly increase, indicates a general desire to know something accurately of our statistics; and the belittling of our people in the census of the United States for several decades, before all the world, as to our numbers, ministerial force, our educational and other enterprises, ought to create a desire to put ourselves right upon the records of the country. We are not, however, without hope that in a very few years we will have formed such an acquaintance with the churches in all our districts as will enable us promptly to fill up the statistical blanks which two years ago were authorized by the General Convention.

For information as to statistics this year we refer the Convention to the report of the Standing Committee on Statistics appointed one year ago, of which J. W. McGarvey is Chairman. For information as to Sunday schools and tracts we refer to the Chairmen of their respective Standing Committees, F. M. Green and A. I. Hobbs.

The following table shows with as much system as the reports will allow, the results of each State's work the past year:

States.	Days labr	Ser-mons	Bap-tisms	Other ad'it'ns	Ch's as't'd	Ch's org'd	New p'nts	Preach'rs located	Money raised
Ohio	2,182	2,061	890	229	89	9	15	28	$7,855 20
Indiana	2,168	1,854	795	388	118	22	16	19	8,640 59
Iowa	605	444	100	84	44	6	15	7	2,263 15
Illinois	1,514	1,345	590	66	57	2	...	9	6,255 21
New York	1,355	890	346	137	.....	2	3	2	2,544 09
Michigan	464	518	69	60	12	4	...	2	1,662 40
Missouri	.....	.....	878	.....	.....	.....	...	...	6,412 70
Penn'a	.....	650	160	85	.....	.....	...	...	3,003 66
Nebraska	.....	.....	22	4	.....	.....	...	...	127 41
West Va	.....	.....	300	.....	.....	2	...	...	840 55
Kentucky	.....	.....	598	.....	.....	.....	...	...	6,493 43
Virginia	.....	.....	1,012	.....	.....	12	...	...	5,040 00
Georgia	.....	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	...	...	662 00
Mississippi	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	....
Minnesota	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	....

It will be seen that only six of the States have made full reports of labor as per blanks, the sums total of which are as follows: Days missionary labor, 8,288; Sermons preached, 7,112; Baptisms, 2,790; Other additions, 964; Churches assisted, 320; Churches organized, 45; New missionary points, 49; Preachers located, 67. The days labor of these six States the last year amount to about twenty-three years for one evangelist, while the 3,754 additions would make 163 additions for each year, including the organization of two churches annually. Had we full reports from all the other States, as we hope to have hereafter, the results would appear gratifying indeed.

The following exhibit shows the financial results of the year:

States.	Disbursed by General Board.	Disbursed by State Board.	Totals.
Ohio	$707 00	.....	$7,855 20
Indiana	1,000 00	$7,640 59	8,640 59
Iowa	19 00	2,244 15	2,263 16
Illinois	204 02	6,056 19	6,255 21
New York	.....	2,544 09	2,544 09
Michigan	44 00	1,618 40	1,662 40
Missouri	98 65	6,314 25	6,412 70
Pennsylvania	.....	3,003 66	3,003 66
Nebraska	.....	127 41	127 41
West Virginia	.....	840 55	840 55
Kentucky	153 85	6,493 43	6,657 28
Virginia	.....	5,040 00	5,040 00
Georgia	.....	662 00	662 00
Mississippi	.....	.....	.....
Minnesota	.....	.....	.....

[In addition to the above State funds, individual donations were received, and will be found in detailed report of the Recording Secretary.]

The amount of money here reported, by no means represents all that has in different ways been consecrated to the cause of Christ the past year through our missionary agency. Large sums have been raised by our evangelists for the support of

pastors in destitute churches, for building meeting houses, and such like purposes. Although we do not add these amounts in any way to our aggregate, yet we have good reason to believe said amounts would not have been developed in the absence of the missionaries. Only a few States have reported their money raised for these objects, but Illinois' work in this direction shall illustrate the good that is done by our evangelists, in addition to their regular duties. The last year, in addition to their $6,255 for mission work proper, they raised $18,000 for meeting-houses and for salaries of unsupported preachers, and needy churches, besides $6,000 raised chiefly by the Sunday school agent, and two Sunday school chapels built for Sunday school purposes, making an aggregate of $24,000 of this indirect missionary fund in one State. Had all the States reported under these headings, it would convince the most skeptical as to the value of our organization; especially when we remember that this kind of work has only been begun. New York, Ohio, Indiana, and other States have likewise raised large sums for these objects.

The Convention will remember that at the suggestion of the Board one year ago, the State and district evangelists were directed to do all in their power toward securing pastoral care for the very many needy churches in all the States, and in this way enlist a much larger per centum of our preachers now partly in secular business for a living, in an entire consecration of their lives to the ministry of the Word. We are happy to report that an encouraging beginning in this work has been made. Iowa has located 7, and Ohio has contributed more or less to the location of 28, New York 3, Illinois 9, Indiana 19, and doubtless some in other States that have not reported it.

It is but just to the faithful men in the field who are striving for the development of a larger ministry, to say that they meet very stubborn obstacles in the way of success. 1st. In the fact that many churches are wholly unconscious of their condition, and think pastoral work, "from house to house," a needless thing, and prefer to live on monthly sermons and protracted meetings. 2d. In the fact that it is often difficult to suit both preacher and churches in the same arrangement; and 3d, because it is not easy to find men enough who make good every-day laborers in given localities. But all these obstacles must and will be overcome before we realize as large amounts for missions as we should, for it is a truth undeniable, both with us and every other religious body, that large amounts are collected only where there is good ministerial labor performed for the churches. If they are uncared for, diminished both in attendance and actual membership, and no one to work up the

missionary spirit among them, they can not be relied on for benevolent contributions of any kind. We trust, therefore, that this work will still receive both the sanction and encouragement of the Convention.

The General Board still labor under embarrassment arising from the States not being able to send on the regular dividends due to our treasury. Last year only two States were able to do so, Kentucky and Ohio; this year only two, Ohio and Indiana. Other States have contributed, but irregularly, and but small part of the dividends. This failure arises from no general indisposition on the part of the States to comply with their agreements, but from inability to carry on State work with only their own part of the money. We have, therefore, tried to adjust ourselves to the present circumstances, and agree to get along with only sufficient to meet current expenses, while the work is taking root in the hearts of the people. We hope the appropriation of our share of the funds in the home fields —in the States where it was raised—will prove in the end to have been the most judicious arrangement that could be made at this stage of our development, as it will firmly establish the home enginery upon which we are to depend for all good works abroad for generations to come. We are glad, however, to say that the new bearing taken by some of the States in resolving to raise definite and much larger sums next year, promises relief to the general treasury, as they hope to send on the regular remittances. Even the weaker States, as Michigan and New York, propose, if possible, to carry out strictly the regular financial plan. It may be proper to say that the general treasury has been somewhat injured by a misunderstanding as to the power of making special appropriations. *No one but the donor* has a right to divert money from the regular channels to any special place. The church or the individual giver, and not the Boards or Conventions, may change the regular course of the dividends, as stated in our Constitution. And it may not be improper to say that any suggestion calculated to influence the donor to so divert his funds when he may have had no such purpose in mind would be unfair. The General Board has been very generous in agreeing so far that every treasury shall be made solvent before we more than meet expenses, giving also the districts and States sole access to the churches without asking for a solitary direct contribution from any church to our treasury, and we suggest that no tendeney to special appropriations should be encouraged. If we encourage every church to apply their few dollars at or near home, instead of trustfully throwing all into a common fund, it will finally and speedily disintegrate and destroy our entire system of co-operation, by

destroying all our treasuries, district as well as State and general. That clause in our plan was never intended to apply extensively, but to meet the case of city churches and others that may have the means to meet some special demands among themselves for missionary labor, or churches in very poor regions of country that are scarcely able to sustain the work at home.

We congratulate the Convention upon the gradual diffusion of better information as to our co-operative movements. Our State, district and county meetings are doing much to acquaint our brethren with each other, to cement their purposes, and to generate holier endeavor in the Master's service. Mass meetings, especially in the interior counties, are beginning a good work in creating a desire to do more for themselves and in getting the missionary question fairly before the people. Those who had been prejudiced and shy are in this way reached and convinced of the good purposes of their brethren. Sunday schools, pastoral labor and county evangelizing are all talked over by elders, deacons, preachers and all, and the way prepared for missionary activity in due time. This will finally leaven the whole mass, and secure the regular dividends to all our treasuries alike.

We are glad also to say that the long desired movement to establish churches in the large towns and cities has been successfully begun. Besides the efforts first and so well begun in Pittsburg and Columbus, this year brings you reports of churches being established, aided by our State missions, in Buffalo, in Toledo, Fort Wayne, Peoria and Galesburg. It is next to certain that these churches would not have been started nor the erection of their meeting-houses have been begun, if we had had no missionary organization. These first fruits are promissory of much that is yet to come; and if the first fruit be acceptable, the mass will also be. Not only are houses built in cities, but often in the smaller towns and country. The first district in Illinois built three meeting-houses not in cities the past year, under the labor and impetus given them by the missions. This work is only begun. Danville, Springfield, Erie, Champaign City, and other cities are now in view.

The value of organized labor is best seen in the records of Societies that have made a history however short. The history that will best serve our purpose, and that will be most acceptable to this Convention, is that of the Ohio Christian Missionary Society, a development among ourselves. The Minutes of 1872 contain the results of the first twenty years of their organized existence, and exhibit the following facts: 1. That 17,583 persons—more than half their number now in the State—have

been added by missionary labor. 2. That 110 churches—nearly one-third their present number—have been organized by the same instrumentality. 3. That one was added to the church for about every two sermons. 4. That during these twenty years they have expended $108,231.35; and that for every six dollars appropriated to missionary work one was added to the church. Whether this may be regarded by some as much or little, it is a hundred-fold better than to have been doing nothing. It exhibits the value of straightforward work without wavering or changing the plan of operation. Several other States have done much also, but feebler organizations prevented the regularity, and even the careful record of their work. The lesson to be learned is this: *Let our present excellent plan of operation go on unbroken for twenty years, and mark the result.*

But another lesson is to be drawn from this twenty years' history of Ohio missions, by no means so flattering, but no less salutary and suggestive than the first. That lesson is the one we have so often tried to impress—*The impossibility of large success without the co-operation of the home ministry of the churches.* Nine years ago Ohio's report was about equal to the report just published, both in money and additions. The reason is that the missionaries have had to do most of the collecting in person, the churches with their elders and preachers for the most part neglecting the regular missionary gifts. And if there is no improvement in the home ministry in this respect, the next ten years will about equal the last. Great success is thus impossible. We need to devise some means by which every preacher especially shall feel *some obligation* to raise missionary funds wherever he labors. What is true in Ohio, is no less true in every other State and of the United States, and our General Conventions, while reporting much good annually, even at the present rate of ministerial co-operation, will, ten years hence, be found reporting less than $100,000, if the elders and preachers generally can not be made to feel more responsibility in this matter. Nothing will be gained by experimenting another decade with our present forces. The result will be the same. It will be useless to change our plan or constitution, as in former years, as if the difficulty lay there. Our plan is complete enough, and everything is in readiness for an onward movement, except that so many captains of hundred unless aroused will certainly fail to lead their companies forth. Every difficulty is out of our way but this, which we commend to your serious consideration. The churches only wait to be led into action.

There are several other great interests of the church besides

that which is strictly missionary that demand a ministry united in aim and in action. *A Church Edifice Fund* should be raised and loaned in small amounts, at moderate interest for a term of years to communities that are unable to build without temporary assistance. The constant demands made upon comparatively few congregations that are centrally located and easy of access, suggest distinctly the propriety of equalizing this burden among all. Then, as a method of helping weak churches to build, we greatly prefer that of having such a fund to the common method of soliciting through the papers, and by agents sent all over the country at heavy expense and with poor success. Such a fund could be gradually accumulated without expense, if our ministry can be united. In the judgment of the Board, it is high time the question of such a fund were being considered, as a missionary interest of the whole body.

Then the endowing of orphan schools, Bible schools, the sale and distribution of tracts and other religious literature, and whatever other good work the brotherhood in convention assembled might resolve to undertake, could all be accomplished with but little expense if the ministry felt themselves to be a *unit* in every good word and work.

Our plan of co-operation, so simple and yet so comprehensive, is admired by others for the *oneness* of its operations—the one organization capable of working our missions, Sunday schools, colportage, church edifice fund, locating unemployed preachers, supplying destitute churches, and whatever else we might wish to do as a people without having the machinery of a separate society for every good work. And in this connection we recommend to the Convention the propriety of inaugurating a system of colportage, to be carried on without expense by our evangelists in all the States and districts. Hymn books, Bibles, Testaments, tracts, and Sunday school and missionary literature could be disposed of, generally for cash, something above cost, and thus supply many a community with religious influences that will never in any other way receive them.

At the last Annual Convention the report of the Committee on German Missions resulted in subscriptions for the same to the amount of about $2,000 annually for five years, on condition that a suitable man would be sent to that field and permanently sustained. It has been found impossible to secure such a missionary this year, and it may be well enough that we have been allowed a year for thought and observance of the openings of Providence, and that we might begin the work with more prayer and consecration to God. Facts now before us, seem to point us to a work to be done there by the careful prepara-

tion and translation of tracts and pamphlets, to be circulated judiciously by some one upon the ground, rather than by sending a missionary at present from America to Germany. It is probable that most of the funds subscribed last year, and more, could be secured for this purpose if the work were committed to the special care of a judicious and competent committee, selected by the Board or by this Convention. We ask a reference of this subject to a competent committee, who may report at an early hour a plan of operations for Germany.

It is well known that the Jamaica Mission has been for two years almost abandoned, for want of means to sustain it. A recent report from that island proves the brethren there to be worthy of help. They still are holding on the best they can. They report 15 stations, 673 members, 157 Sunday school pupils, 60 day school pupils, 8 native preachers in good standing, and 24 additions recently in one of their churches. Still they feel it to be indispensable to have an evangelist there from the United States, to lead them and muster the potencies of the churches. They still believe that something more will be done for them. To all their calls for help for two years, we have had but one reply to make—an empty treasury. Under these circumstances, your Board suggests that this mission, in the absence of means from the general treasury, be committed to a new and as yet untried agency—*to the sisters of some of our States.* In the recent Indiana State Convention, your Corresponding Secretary canvassed this subject, both privately and in the Convention, and is satisfied from the spirit manifested there, that if this Convention should request the sisters of that State to undertake said work, it would be accepted cheerfully *as their special care.* While it would not interfere with the regular dividends from that State to the general treasury, it would be a part of the $25,000 they propose to raise this year. If the Convention make the request, all details would be agreed upon as to the best method of carrying out the work, by the State and General Boards.

We present also to the consideration of the Convention, the question of arranging for the education of a colored ministry. A careful correspondence with leading brethren of the church, especially in the South, convinces us of the practicability of the movement, the propriety and necessity of which can not be doubted. We are satisfied that if an agent or agents of influence among the brethren, and naturally and religiously adapted to such an enterprise, were selected by this Convention, that funds could be raised in a reasonable time to start a work so much needed by our colored churches and by the whole colored population of the South. The subject has been

agitated in *The Missionary* during the year, and is not, therefore, so unstudied as to require another year for reflection. We would, therefore, urge immediate attention to this pressing demand of the times.

The Convention of 1871 passed a resolution authorizing the Corresponding Secretary to publish a missionary *monthly*, "with the consent and approval of the General Board," at twenty-five cents per annum, to be "devoted especially to missionary work among our brethren," at the expense of the general treasury. A committee, consisting of Thomas Munnell, Robert Moffett, and L. L. Carpenter, was appointed to contract with some suitable house for publishing it. An agreement was made with Bosworth, Chase and Hall, of Cincinnati, Ohio, who, in consideration of a column and a quarter of the paper for advertising their business, have attended to all the business details connected with the printing, proof-reading, book-keeping and mailing, all of which has been done in a manner most satisfactory to the editor and the Board. The first number was issued in January last, and has been out promptly every month since that time, making ten numbers to date. The circulation is already a little over 7,000. Club rates have been allowed to some extent, and quite a number have been distributed gratuitously every month, which required a larger monthly issue than was necessary to supply the subscribers. Notwithstanding both these facts, it has paid its way, and more, this first year. After paying up all expenses to date, and retaining enough money to publish the remaining two numbers of this year, it leaves a balance in the treasury of about $300 for missionary purposes. Its influence for good has been widely felt and constantly acknowledged, by those especially who are engaged in the missionary work, and we recommend its continuance as long as it proves to be useful in this department of our labor.

As our missionary organization is promising a permanency heretofore unattained, the attention of wealthy members is being directed toward it in different States as a safe depository for money which they wish to leave and do good when they shall have gone to their heavenly rest. Such donors of course have a right to leave their means to the General or State Boards alone, if they prefer to do so. Few, however, have any desire beyond placing their means where they will the most certainly realize the intention of the giver. We suggest that this Convention should arrive at a fair understanding as to the relation we should seek to establish of such funds to the State and general treasuries. Shall we encourage such donors to leave their money to both these treasuries? Brethren desiring to do good when they are gone would often rather know

the mind of the brethren of such a Convention as this as to the best appropriation of their means, than trust to their own judgment. Besides as the State and General Boards and Conventions work together to render our whole organization worthy of confidence, it may be well to consider whether we should not encourage such donations to be divided equally between them, unless the donor has a preference for one or the other.

We suggest, also, as worthy of consideration, whether it is necessary to have our General Conventions assembled every year. Several considerations suggest the propriety of this thought. First, is the expense of coming from all the States annually imposed as it is generally upon the delegates themselves, in the absence of any arrangement among us for mileage. This militates against a full representation, which will be felt more hereafter, as it now seems probable that reduced fare upon the railroads will soon be entirely refused. It is a question whether biennial conventions, with a fuller delegate representation, would not be preferable to what we are likely to have annually. Again, it may be that the State and district conventions being held annually, the missionary business *may not require* an annual meeting of the General Convention.

Finally, we would remind the Convention of the many mercies of our God toward us all during the year whose moments are now fast closing up the account that each one of us must give when we appear before the judgment seat of Christ. As officers of this Convention, we have had our discouragements and our comforts. When the way seemed dark and forbidding, our confidence has been in Him who has "never left us nor forsaken us" in any of life's trials. Our prayer to God has been for the unity and missionary spirit of His people, that we might overcome all obstacles in the way of success, and that we may not be ashamed before Him at His coming. If He is willing to forgive the errors of us all in the past, we should also forget the things that are behind and reach forth unto the great works that are before us. We have much to undertake and do the coming year, and will need more than human wisdom to guide us, and more than human strength to carry out all that evidently is about to fall providentially to our lot.

We feel that there will be need of much prayer in commencing the labors of this year—prayer not only during this Convention and by its members, here and at home, but if possible by the whole church. And may it not be true that as a people we have not sufficiently acknowledged God, and sought His help in our missionary labors? and would it not be well for the Convention to agree upon an early day in which to ask all the churches in all the States to unite in special prayer for the

help of Him who has promised to be with His people "always even unto the end of the world"? We have much to pray for —for "the wisdom that is from above" in managing the interests of the kingdom of God; for the true missionary spirit among the churches and their ministry; for the conversion of sinners; the edification of saints, aud for "the peace of Jerusalem." We suggest that this subject also be referred to a suitable committee on *A Day of Prayer.*

In closing the responsibilities of another year, your Board and Corresponding Secretary would express thankfulness for the past and confidence for the future. We have worked with a courage undaunted, and a will unconquered by difficulty. We have sought to please God and do our duty, and with an ardent desire for your future growth in all the elements of a powerful missionary body, we return to you the charge committed to our hands. The cause has had the benefit of incessant attention and unflagging energy every day in the year. In the pnlpit and out of it, with tongue and pen, in convention and in the studio, at home and abroad the work has been constantly pressed forward. No pains have been spared, no ease sought or desired, no burdens shunned, and now we are willing that the records of the year shall go before the Convention, as well as into the hands of Him that "judgeth righteously."

By order of the Board.

THOMAS MUNNELL, *Cor. Sec'y.*

The report was full of interest, and portions of it were referred to appropriate committees: On motion of R. Moffet, of Ohio, the following committees were appointed:

1. Committee on the Necessity of Regular Preaching—J. B. McGinn, Kentucky; T. D. Garvin, Ohio; R. L. Howe, Ind.

2. Church Edifice Fund—committee to consist of five members—A. I. Hobbs, Ohio; John A. Dickinson, Kentucky; J. F. Sloan, Indiana; M. N. Lord, Illinois; D. L. Thomas, Kentucky.

3. Colportage—D. R. Van Buskirk, Indiana; A. E. Myers, West Virginia; W. L. Williams, Kentucky.

4. Foreign Missions—R. R. Sloan, Ohio; R. C. Ricketts, Kentucky; E. A. Lodge, Michigan.

5. Biennial Conventions—Elijah Goodwin, Kentucky; Dr. Adams, Kentucky; W. L. Hayden, Pennsylvania.

On Educating a Colored Ministry—T. M. Harris, Georgia; B. S. Campbell, Kentucky; W. B. Hendryx, Indiana.

7. Legacies—Enos Campbell, Illinois; J. B. Vawter, Iowa; J. S. Sweeney, Kentucky.

8. A Day of Prayer for Missions—O. A. Burgess, Illinois; L. R. Gault, Michigan; S. Bentley, Ohio.

After sundry announcements by the President, the Convention adjourned to 7 P. M.

THURSDAY EVENING, 7 P. M.

The social meeting was led by Bro. W. A. Belding, of New York.

After the social meeting the Convention was addressed by James Challen, of Ohio, on the "Old Paths." The address was listened to with close attention throughout.

The Committee on Order of Business announced the "Order of Business" for Friday as follows:

MORNING.

1. Report of Treasurer.
2. Report of Standing Committees.
3. Report of Other Committees.

11 A. M. address by W. L. Hayden, of Philadelphia.

AFTERNOON, 2 P. M.

1. Report of Committees.
2. Report of Trustees of Hymn Book.
3. Adjourns at 4½ P. M.

EVENING.

Address at 7½ P. M., by W. F. Black. Convention adjourned. Benediction by F. M. Green.

FRIDAY, OCT. 25, 1872, 8 A. M.

Social meeting presided over by Bro. W. L. Williams, of Kentucky. The exercises of this meeting were spirited and interesting.

At 9 A. M. the Convention was called to order by the President.

The minutes of the previous sessions were read and approved.

An additional enrollment of delegates was called for, and resulted in the addition of several names.

Bro. W. H. Lape made some statements concerning return tickets on Railroads.

The Treasurer's Report was read by the Treasurer, W. S. Dickinson, of Ohio. Report referred to the Auditor.

REPORT OF TREASURER.

CINCINNATI, *October*, 1872.

Dr.—To balance last report	$674 20	
Receipts during year	54,601 36	$55,275 56
Cr.—Paid orders		55,275 56

W. S. DICKINSON, *Treasurer.*

In addition to above, reports from three or four States not yet received.

Motion was made and carried to suspend the rules, and have the detailed report of the Recording Secretary. This was read by D. W. Chase, Recording Secretary of the Board. The report was adopted.

REPORT OF RECORDING SECRETARY.

S. A. C. Brown, for Jamaica	$5 00
A Disciple, for Jamaica	2 00
Mary J. Helm, for Jamaica.	2 00
Main Street Church, St. Louis	10 00
E. S. Frazee	1 00
Ohio State Treasury	157 40
Paris, Missouri	10 00
Harrisburg, Missouri	10 00
Rumina Spencer, for Jamaica	10 00
Jno. T. Jones, for Georgia Freedmen	25 00
Ohio State Treasury	172 50
Indiana State Treasury	253 66
John Darst	25 00
A. E. Rood	10 00
Indiana State Treasury	55 95
Ohio State Treasury	117 65
Illinois State Treasury	18 00
J. Laws, for Jamaica	5 00
F. W. Dixon	2 00
Illinois State Treasury	20 50
Mrs. D. R. Clayton	2 00
Mrs. Betsy F. Weed	5 00
A. N. Haskin	5 00
Indiana State Treasury	115 07
Toledo	12 00
Julia Dodt	1 00
Alice Hatfield	1 00
Mrs. A. J. Hatfield	5 00
Lizzie Munnell (Mite Box).	2 40
Missouri State Treasury	98 65
J. O. Beardslee for Jamaica	5 00
Indiana State Treasury	60 95
New Antioch, Ohio	19 20
James Magill	5 00
M. L. Darneille	2 00
Indiana State Treasury	164 90
Mrs. B. F. Weed	5 00
Mrs. A. N. Haskin	5 00
B. F. Jeans	1 00
Illinois State Treasury	22 30
Ill. State Convention Col...	$143 22
Mrs. J. Judy	10 00
A. J. Thompson	10 00
Michigan State Treasury	44 00
Ohio State Treasury	50 00
Sisters of Covington, Ky.	21 85
Sisters of Macedonia, Ky.	15 00
Sisters of Main St. Church, Lexington. Ky	25 00
Sisters of Broadway Street Church, Lexington, Ky.	50 00
Sisters of Cynthiana, Ky.	22 00
Sisters of Paris, Ky.	20 00
A. A. Glenn	10 00
Iowa State Treasury	19 00
Indiana State Treasury	171 82
Indiana State Treasury	177 65
J. R. Haldeman	5 00
J. W. Maxwell	5 00
H. D. Clark	10 00
Ohio State Treasury	150 00
Bosworth, Chase & Hall on acc. of *The Missionary*	300 00
Ohio	7,855 20
Iowa	2,263 15
Illinois	6,255 21
New York	2,544 00
Michigan	1,662 40
Missouri	6,412 70
Pennsylvania	3,003 66
Nebraska	127 41
West Virginia	840 55
Georgia	662 00
Indiana	8,640 59
Kentucky	6,493 43
Virginia	5,040 00
J. C. Tully	10 00
A. Rosetta M. Teagarden	5 00
E. Ellsworth Teagarden	5 00
A Sister (gold)	1 00
Collection at Louisville	69 80
Total	$54,601 36

1450 03

The report of the Standing Committee on Sunday-schools was read by the Chairman, F. M. Green, of Ohio:

DEAR BRETHREN,—Your Committee on Sunday-schools beg leave to respectfully report as follows: In the Sunday-school department of religious thought and labor, there has been exhibited, during the past year, a most wonderful activity.

The vast importance of the Sunday-school, as an agent for the spread of Divine Truth, is being realized by nearly all the religious bodies of the land.

Thoughtful men are affirming that the Sunday-school idea is not of man's device but from God.

The modern movements in favor of Sunday-schools, date back only about one hundred years; but we feel safe in affirming that the idea is much older, having its origin and shape long prior to the apostolic era. Its years are at least as many as those of the Jewish commonwealth.

Like all growths, the development of the idea has presented features in every age of varied and marked interest.

To a reflecting mind there is nothing more interesting than that which refers to the origin and gradual progress of events in the natural, the political, the moral, and the spiritual world. To this task the profoundest intellects the world has ever known have given the bravest thought and the most ardent study.

The great landmarks of the world's progress are *ideas*. Ideas mark eras. Either new ideas, strange, startling, or old ideas, clothed in a new garment—it matters not which—they keep the ocean of thought from stagnation.

"There is nothing new under the sun," is a time-honored sentiment; and a shrewd observer of events has often noticed that the supposed *inventions* of later days are but the development of ideas entertained in ages long since past, but which have not been carried out into actual practice, or have failed at that period to exert any permanent or wide-spread influence.

The Sunday-school is not an exception to this experience.

In its modern form no church, at the beginning, would take it under its control as patronage. It was considered a breach of the commandment: "Honor thy father and thy mother."

Individual men and women, therefore, fostered it almost unaided by the religious parties of their day. It was after many years of cheerful toil before Robert Raikes was permitted to write to a friend: "At Windsor the ladies of fashion pass their Sundays in teaching the poorest children."

Were it within our scope, as committee, we could present to you many items of trancendent interest in regard to the origin and development of the Sunday-school idea.

PRESENT WORK.

During the present year nearly every religious party, of this country, has held its annual Sunday-school Convention. These have been crowded with more than usual interest. One of the grandest and most inspiring gatherings ever convened on this continent was the "Fifth National Sunday-school Convention," held in the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, April 17, 18 and 19, 1872. Delegates were present from twenty-two States of this nation; from Canada; from Ireland; and from India.

The "motto" of the Convention was the "Word of God," as the basis of Christian union, and the "Love of God," as the one grand motive to Christian endeavor.

What does all this mean? Can we "discern the signs of the times?"

STATISTICS.

In the department of Sunday-school Statistics we present the following as approximately correct. Some of these figures are taken from official reports—the others are estimated:

	NO. OF SCHOOLS.	OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.	SCHOLARS.
Methodists	17,555	193,979	1,267,742
Presbyterians	4,616	41,544	479,817
Baptists	5,047	86,465	607,638
Episcopalians	2,700	24,268	221,200
Congregationalists	3,121	28,080	280,890
Disciples	2,450	23,495	253,290
All Others	10,000	120,000	1,200,000
Total	45,489	517,840	4,310,577

More detailed report of the numerical condition of Sunday-schools among the Disciples, is presented in the following table, viz.:

	NO. OF SCHOOLS.	OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.	SCHOLARS.
West Virginia	25	225	2,250
New York	40	360	3,500
Missouri	175	1,575	15,540
Kentucky	300	2,700	27,000
Ohio	315	2,835	33,000
Illinois	345	3,500	45,000
Indian	550	6,000	65,000
All Others	700	6,300	62,000
Total	2,450	23,495	253,290

Except from Indiana, Illinois, New York, and Ohio, these figures are estimated. Very little has yet been done in the way of an organized effort in behalf of Sunday-schools among the Disciples.

Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, have each an effective State organization. Kentucky is moving in the same direction, and at her last State Missionary Convention, steps were taken, which doubtless ere-long will place Kentucky in the ranks of the organized States. Other States will soon take like measures.

The best State Sunday-school organization, all things considered, is the "Ohio Christian Sunday-school Association." This association reaches with its practical help nearly every portion of Ohio. Eighteen of the twenty-five missionary districts are now fully organized, and mostly in good working order.

Next to Ohio—and not much behind her—come Indiana and Illinois. Both of these States are blazing with enthusiasm.

The State Conventions in Indiana, especially, have been wonderful in size, spirit, and enthusiasm. The Convention in Greensburg, in August, was equal in numbers to the National Convention at Indianapolis.

The large meetings in Illinois have been nearly equal with those of Indiana in these points. Missouri has, also, taken an advanced position upon the question. No other States have perfected a State organization. In some of the States above mentioned, the missionary and Sunday-school interest are under our general management. All things considered, we are making commendable progress—though there is a large margin left for improvement, for which we "thank God, and take courage." We shall take no steps backward. "*Forward*" is our watchward, until we realize the primitive enthusiasm in our labors, and the primitive hope in all its fullness.

GENERAL REMARKS.

There is great activity manifested in the Sunday-school field on every side of us.

The Methodists report an increase during the last year of 643 churches, 4,567 officers and teachers, and 46,349 scholars. This is a wonderful increase, even for a body so well disciplined.

At the head of all their Sunday-school interests is Dr. J. H. Vincent, of New York, and the oldest Sunday-school man of that denomination.

The Baptists, also, report an increase in a single year (1871) of 2,796 schools, 23,946 officers and teachers, 133,374 scholars. They have in the field, as their general Sunday-school manager, Dr. Warren Randolph, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Presbyterians have, also, a general agent continually in the Sunday-school field, in the person of the accomplished H. Clay Trumbull, of Connecticut.

Other religious bodies have progressed at about the same rate. And the great *apparent* reason for their success is found in the fact that they place at the head of their Sunday-school work the best talent they can command.

May we not learn a good lesson from them?

SUGGESTIONS.

Within a few years the institution of the Sunday-school has assumed such a form, and grown to such a magnitude, that probably very few, even of the most thoughtful Christians, duly appreciate its unspeakable importance. Being in the very midst of its developments, we do not *so* see its vast proportions that they leave upon our minds an adequate impression. If they were fairly grasped by our brethren, at this deeply momentous epoch of their history, there is probably no other subject that would call forth from them more thoughtful consideration.

When it is considered that the religious training of the young lies at the very foundation of every other institution of the church, and of all that is hopeful in her future prospects, how can we overestimate the importance of this subject? The fact to which we dare not close our eyes, that so much of that training passes over to the Sunday-school and the church, imposes such a tremendous weight of responsibility, that no amount of thought, or work or money is too great to be bestowed on this subject. Then its proportions rise up into additional grandeur, when we reflect that the Sunday-school is the best known agency for reaching the millions upon millions of children who have no religious training from parents or any others, and saving them from godless lives with all their disastrous consequences.

Then, too, the Sunday-school is pre-eminent as furnishing a plain and profitable field of Christian toil for every warm heart and willing hand.

The work which we evidently should undertake in this matter, presents itself in three branches:

1. The first branch should include everything pertaining to the books, and all other literature that might be needed to give success to the work of Sunday-schools. The great and threatening evil of books unsuitable for Sunday-school, or any other good purpose filling our libraries, ought to be efficiently guarded against. This can only be done by the exercise of great care and judgment by those who may have this matter in charge.

Under this branch of the subject, should also come the providing suitable help for the whole Sunday-school work.

2. A second branch of this general subject should contemplate improvement in the standard of teaching, the purifying of our schools of everything unworthy of the dignity of the cause, and the thorough development of the great Sunday-school idea. What can we do to increase the piety, the zeal, the scriptural intelligence, and the aptness to impart knowledge on the part of our teachers?—is the great question upon which the true efficiency of our Sunday-schools depends. The aim here should be to enlist the piety and talent of the church in the cause; to develop practically the idea that the Sunday-school is an integral part of the church; to secure every real improvement in this work; to guard against mere novelties which may be injurious; and make constant progress in the art of enriching the minds of the young, with the knowledge of God contained in the Bible, and of drawing them to Christ.

For the highest efficiency and success we believe it advisable, as soon as practicable, to have a general superintendent of Sunday-school work, to devote his whole energies to the promotion of its interests. He could be a medium of communication concerning all that would promote the welfare of the cause. Himself, thoroughly abreast of the times, in all the healthful improvements in the work of Sunday-schools, he could circulate a knowledge of them through all our churches; impart information; stimulate interest; and incite liberality that would be felt throughout all our bounds.

3. A third branch of this work of the church should be the planting of new Sunday-schools in destitute localities. We ought to be amongst the foremost in this enterprise, which must be productive of vast results for good. We might expect every Sunday-school, organized through our instrumentality, to become a center of salutary influences; and many to lead to the organization of churches. Such, then, is the outline of the Sunday-school work to which we are imperatively called. This is the church's work, emphatically, if there is any work for her to do. The Sunday-school is not a thing distinct from the church, but it is the *church working in* the instruction of its own children, and in the evangelization of the children of those not connected with the church.

CONCLUSION.

This is our opportunity. On one of the walls of the temple of Delphos was this inscription: "Know thy opportunity." On the walls of God's greater temple—the church—the same sentiment is written in the bold hand of the inspired penman. A field broader than ever opens before us. In it we are plant-

ing seeds and saplings that shall flourish in noble forests ages hence. Let us put in the ground trees that shall rise high, cast broad shadows, and bear perennial fruit; and a thousand years from now when we sleep in Greenwood, or Laurel Hill, or on some battle-field, or in mid-ocean, they who live shall say, "Blessed are they who planted trees of such noble height, broad branches, and bearing such goodly fruit."

F. M. GREEN,
Chairman Committee on Sunday-schools.

After earnest remarks on the subject, matter of the report by G. A. Mervin, of New York; Elijah Goodwin, L. R. Gault, Bro. L. W. Scott, Enos Campbell, J. J. Moss, J. C. Reynolds, the report was unanimously adopted.

W. H. Lape was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Railroad Passes.

The President announced the Committee on Nominations as follows:

W. F. Burch, of Missouri; R. Milligan, Kentucky; R. R. Sloan, Ohio; W. A. Belding, New York; J. C. Reynolds, Illinois.

The Standing Committee on Religious Literature reported that they had no report prepared.

The Committee on Statistics were allowed time to prepare their report, the Chairman, J. W. McGarvey, being absent.

Report from the Committee on "Colportage" was presented by D. R. Van Buskirk, and when read, was unanimously adopted.

COMMITTEE ON COLPORTAGE.

The Committee to which was referred that part of the report of the Corresponding Secretary, which recommends a more effective system of Colportage, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that while they are unable to present any plan that will completely meet a deeply-felt and wide-spread want among the Disciples, and especially among the churches in the rural districts; they are, nevertheless, persuaded that the pressing want might be partially supplied by a proper effort on the part of our State and District Evangelists.

Let these Evangelists interest themselves in assisting to supply the churches that need them, with Hymn Books, Sunday-school Books, Tracts, Bibles, etc., at as low prices as it can possibly be done. Let them act as a medium of communication between the churches and the publishers of the books needed.

But the extent of this want is not to be measured simply by the lack of books. Hundreds of disciples who have Bibles do not read them. Of the contents of that blessed book, they know very little,

except that which they hear in an occasional sermon, and this is so fragmentary as to do them but little good. It is not only important to carry books to the families that have them not, but that the Bible shall be read to them, and that personal efforts be made to promote more constant and systematic Bible-reading in the family. Your Committee would recommend that our Evangelists be requested to give special and prayerful attention to this important features of their work. Respectfully submitted,

D. R. VAN BUSKIRK.
W. L. WILLIAMS.

The Committee on Foreign Missions reported as follows:

Your Committee to which was referred the subject of Foreign Missions, beg leave respectfully to report:

1. That we owe it as a duty to God and our race to renew the work of Foreign Missions soon as practicable and to the extent practicable,
2. That the Jamaica Mission should be revived, and that we recommend the Board to commit the financial interests of this mission to our sisterhood in Indiana, under the direction of the State Board of Indiana, in co-operation with the General Board.
3. That we recommend the appointment of a Committee of three to prepare tracts suitable for publication and distribution in Germany, provided funds are first secured to defray expenses of the same.

R. R. SLOAN,
R. C. RICKETTS, SR., } *Committee.*
EDWIN A. LODGE.

R. Moffett moved that the report be adopted *seriatim.*

The discussion was participated in by J. S. Sweeney, A. I. Hobbs, J. C. Reynolds, L. L. Pinkerton. Pending which the time of Bro. W. L. Hayden's address having arrived, a song was sung—"Come, Let Us Anew," etc., and the Convention listened to the address on the subject—"*The Boundaries of the Gospel,*" Bro. Hayden basing his remarks upon the words in the 2nd John, 9-11 verse inclusive.

After the address the Convention adjourned till 2 P. M. Benediction by Isaac Errett.

FRIDAY, 2 O'CLOCK P. M., OCTOBER 25, 1872.

At 2 P. M. the Convention was called to order by the President, who read the 84th Psalm. The Convention was led in prayer by James Challen, of Ohio.

The minutes of the morning session were read and adopted.

On motion of Dr. Hopson, the discussion of the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was resumed.

Upon this question short speeches were made by W. T.

Moore, R. R. Sloan, Thomas Munnell, J. B. McGinn, Isaac Errett. The report was unanimously adopted.

The Committee to which was referred that part of the Corresponding Secretary's report, relating to regular preaching, made the following report:

REGULAR PREACHING.

BRO. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN,—Your Committee to whom was referred so much of the report of the Corresponding Secretary as relates to *Regular Preaching*, ask leave to report as follows:

That, as it has pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe, it follows that preaching has for its object two things: First, to win their souls to Christ. Second, to build up believers in their most holy faith.

Doubtless the first object can be attained by protracted meetings and by monthly preaching. But our past experience as a people, abundantly proves that, without regular labor and teaching, from house, by some one called to and qualified for the work, great numbers of those who have been introduced into the Kingdom and patience of Jesus the Christ, will fall away and be lost. Your Committee most heartly endorse the recommendation made by the Corresponding Secretary, and rejoice in the success of the efforts that have been made to supply congregations with regular preaching. We earnestly recommend this subject to the consideration of not only the Corresponding Secretaries of State societies, but to all who are engaged in proclaiming the Gospel.

We are satisfied that many of our churches that are now without regular preaching are not only able to sustain a regular laborer, but could be induced to do so, if an earnest effort was made by our preaching brethren in their several districts; all of which your Committee respectfully submit.

J. B. MCGINN,
T. D. GARVIN,
R. L. HOWE.

Remarks were made upon the report by Thomas Munnell, T. D. Garvin.

The report was adopted unanimously.

O. A. Burgess, from the Committee on a "Day of Prayer" for missions, made the following report:

Your Committee, appointed to consider the question of a Day of Prayer for missionary cause, having considered the same, beg. leave to report that they recommend the brethren everywhere to occupy the evening of their regular prayer-meeting in the third week in November next, especially in prayer, for the success of the missionary work.

O. A. BURGESS,
S. BENTLY,
L. R. GAULT.

The report was unanimously adopted by the Convention.

A. I. Hobbs, from the Committee on a "Church Edifice Fund," made a report which, amended, is as follows:

CHURCH EDIFICE FUND.

MR. PRESIDENT,—Your Committee to whom was referred so much of the Board's report, as relates to a "Church Edifice Fund," would respectfully report:

1. That they deem it very important to provide a permanent fund, from which by loan or otherwise, appropriations may be made to assist new organizations in securing new church buildings.

2. That, to devise a suitable plan for reaching this end, would require more time than is now at our command; besides, such statistics as are needful, are not in our possession, therefore

3. We recommend that a committee of five be appointed to prepare and report at our next General Convention a plan of operations by which a "Church Edifice Fund" may be raised, and judiciously used to promote the end proposed.

M. N. LORD,
JOHN A. DICKINSON,
J. F. SLOAN,
D. L. THOMAS.
A. I. HOBBS, *Chairman.*

The report was amended so as to make the committee to consist of the present members.

The report as amended was adopted.

Enos Campbell, of Illinois, from the Committee on "Legacies," reported the following:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON "LEGACIES."

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION,—Your Committee to whom was referred that part of the Corresponding Secretary's report referring to "Legacies," would respectfully recommend the following:

1. That our Corresponding Secretary specially recommend to all State Boards, which have not been incorporated, to take the necessary legal steps which will enable them to receive and appropriate such legacies or gifts as may from time to time be set apart by Christ-loving people, to extend His holy cause in the earth.

2. That all such bequests shall be appropriated strictly in accordance with the expressed will of the donors.

3. That in case the donors leave their bequests to be expended in the cause of Christ, according to the best judgment of the Board, then *three-fourths* of such bequests shall be expended within the limits of the State in which the donors resided, and the remaining *one-fourth* shall go to the General Board.

4. That in case any of these donors make any special bequest to any foreign missions, such bequest shall be placed at the disposal of the General Board, to be appropriated as directed by the donors.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ENOS CAMPBELL, *Chairman.*
J. S. SWEENEY,
J. B. VAWTER.

On motion of W. T. Moore, the report was referred back to the Committee, after remarks by W. T. Moore, Thomas Munnell, R. R. Sloan, Enos Campbell, G. A. Merwin, R. Moffett.

W. F. Burch, from the Committee on Nominations, reported as follows:

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS.

The Committee appointed to nominate permanent officers of the Convention for the ensuing year has performed that duty, and respectfully present the following report:

President—R. M. Bishop.
Vice-President—Isaac Errett, R. Milligan, W. K. Pendleton.
Corresponding Secretary—Thomas Munnell.
Recording Secretaries—D. W. Chase, J. W. McGarvey, F. M. Green.
Treasurer—W. S. Dickinson.
Auditor—B. W. Wasson.
Board of Managers—A. I. Hobbs, M. H. Slosson, W. S. Dickinson, B. W. Wasson, H. S. Bosworth, W. H. Hopson, R. R. Sloan, W. H. Lape, O. A. Burgess.

The report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

On motion of J. J. Moss, a Committee of three was appointed on Obituaries, consisting of E. Goodwin, J. J. Moss, James Challen.

Bro. W. T. Moore gave notice of the following change in the 5th article of the Constitution, that it should read "Louisville," instead of "Cincinnati."

D. L. Thomas moved that a Committee of three be appointed to report on that part of the Corresponding Secretary's report which relates to the publication of the Missionary.

The Committee appointed is as follows:

D. L. Thomas, of Kansas; A. E. Myers, of West Virginia; J. D. Pickett, of Kentucky.

Dr. L. L. Pinkerton gave notice that he would move that hereafter the officers of this Convention be chosen by nomination and ballot.

By permission Bro. J. S. Sweeney offered the following resolution:

That when this Convention adjourns, it shall be to meet on Tuesday at 7 P. M., instead of Thursday, so that its business may be transacted, and delegates return home by the following Lord's day.

Report adopted.

Elijah Goodwin, from the Committee on Biennial Conventions, made the following report:

BIENNIAL CONVENTION.

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the report of the Board which refers to Biennial Conventions, beg leave to report they have carefully considered that subject, and recommend that the Constitution be so changed as to read Biennial General Conventions instead of Annual General Conventions, and all other parts of the Constitution be made to conform to this change. We suggest this change for the following reasons:

1. Such a change will result in a saving of time and expenses in attending so many Conventions, which are not needed to give efficiency to the general missionary work.

2. The missionary enthusiasm, which has been one of the greatest advantages of these annual gatherings, can be more effectually awakened in the State and District Conventions, which come nearer to the churches, where it is most needed.

Ail of which is respectfully submitted by

ELIJAH GOODWIN,
A. ADAMS,
W. L. HAYDEN. } *Committee.*

Report laid on the table.

Dr. Hopson gave notice to move at the next meeting of this Convention that the words "an annual," in the seventh line of Article II, Section 2 of the Convention be stricken out, and the words "a Biennial" be inserted, so as to provide for a Biennial instead of an Annual Convention; and that all other changes necessary to harmonize the Constitution work, the change be also made.

O. A. Burgess read the report of the Trustees of the Christian Hymn Book as follows, which was adopted.

The Trustees of the Hymn Book beg leave to report:

Since our last report, we have been prosecuting the work of publication upon the same basis as heretofore reported. The Christian Hymnal, first reported to you last year, has been received with general favor, and adopted by many of our congregations as the standard of sacred psalmody and music. The expenses incurred in the publication of the Hymnal, necessarily much greater, for reasons that are obvious, than the publication of the Hymn Books, have not yet been entirely met, and consequently no surplus fund has occurred

in favor of the general Treasury. We should not, however, omit to state, that the exceedingly low prices at which all our Hymn Books are sold, render it impossible, under any ordinary sales, to realize any large profits for the use of the Society. It has been the steady purpose of your Trustees to furnish the brotherhood with hymns and music suitable for family and congregational use, at the lowest possible cost, rather than attempt, by extra prices, to make that a source of revenue to the Society. The debt incurred by the purchase of plates and copy-rights is now nearly liquidated, and the Hymn Books will soon again make returns to the Treasury. The sales of the Hymn Book and Hymnal are steady, and the demand constantly increasing.

R. M. Bishop.
C. H. Gould.
J. B. Bowman,
O. A. Burgess,
W. H. Lape.
} *Trustees, per* O. A. Burgess.

A Committtee on the Place of the next Annual Convention was appointed as follows:

W. T. Moore, W. F. Black, W. H. Hopson.

The Committee on the "Education of a Colored Ministry," made its report by its Chairman, W. B. Hendryx.

EDUCATION OF COLORED MINISTRY.

The Committee on "Educating a Colored Ministry," have had the same under careful considerarion, and beg leave to report:

1. From all we can learn of the facts connected with the early evangelization of the colored people, we are persuaded that the education of colored ministry is all-important and indispensable to successful evangelization, and that the speediest and surest way to elevate that people is to establish schools among them, for the education of their religious teachers.

2. We, therefore, recommend that the Board employ an efficient agent who has the welfare of the colored people at heart, to raise funds for the establishment of one or more schools for this purpose, and who shall have general supervision of the work. And that instead of an immediate effort to found a college, we recommend the establishment of normal theological schools.

3. We further recommend a labor system as most practicable especially in the cotton-growing sections, with one or more teachers, each under such special regulations as they may think best who have the work in charge.

Thomas M. Harris, Georgia.
W. B. Hendryx, Indiana.
B. S. Campbell, Kentucky.

Made the special order for 8 A. M., Saturday morning.

The Committee on the "Order of Business" reported:

1. Saturday morning, 8 A. M., Unfinished Business.
2. Miscellaneous Business.
3. 11 A. M., Address by Jabez Hall.

Bro. A. I. Hobbs moved that the report of the Committee on Nominations be reconsidered. Motion tabled.

At 4¾ P. M. the Convention adjourned. Benediction by Bro. Pickett.

EVENING SESSION.

Social meeting presided over by H. Pangburn, of Kentucky.

After the social meeting the Convention was addressed by W. F. Black, of Indiana. Bro. Black read from 1 John, iii: 3, 4, "And every one who has this hope in Him, purifies himself even as He is pure, whosoever commits sin, transgresseth also the law; for sin is the transgression of law."

After the sermon, a collection was taken amounting to $69.80.

Adjourned to meet at 8 A.M., Saturday, October 26, 1872.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1872.

The Convention met at 8 A.M., and was opened by the reading of the Scriptures. Prayer by J. J. Moss.

The regular order of the morning was pursued, the report of the Committee on the Education of a Colored Ministry being the first thing in order.

Remarks were made on the subject by L. L. Pinkerton, A. I. Hobbs, Thomas Munnell, Robert Milligan, J. J. Moss, R. R. Sloan, Orange Higgins, R. M. Bishop, W. L. Hayden, W. P. Withers, G. A. Merwin, J. B. Vawter, Robert Moffett, W. B. Hendryx.

The report was adopted.

The President announced the Standing Committees as follows:

Sunday Schools—F. M. Green, Ohio; L. L. Carpenter, Indiana; W. L. Williams, Kentucky.

Religious Literature—W. K. Pendleton, West Virginia; Isaac Errett, Ohio; Dr. W. H. Hopson, Kentucky.

Statistics—R. Moffett, Ohio; Robert Graham, Kentucky; E. A. Lodge, Michigan.

German Mission—C. L. Loos, West Virginia; S. K. Hoshour Indiana; W. T. Moore, Ohio.

Bro. Enos Campbell, Chairman of the Committee on "Legacies," asked to be discharged, or leave to report at the next annual convention.

On motion of W. K. Pendleton the Committee was discharged. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the General Board be requested to prepare for publication in our papers, an address to the brotherhood, on the subject of bequests in aid of the missionary work, to see that proper provisions be made for rendering such bequests legal.

The Committee on place for holding the next General Convention. reported in favor of Indianapolis, Indiana. Adopted.

D. L. Thomas, from the Committee on the management of *The Missionary*, made the following report:

Your Committee to whom was referred that portion of the report of the Board relating to *The Missionary* begs leave to report:

1. The success of *The Missionary* thus far is a practical indorsement of its service in the missionary work. And we, therefore, confidently recommend that its publication be continued.

2. That its editor, Bro. Thomas Munnell, deserves the thanks the Convention for the faithful and efficient manner in which he is conducting it.

3. That in view of the direction given by *The Missionary* to the cause of Missions, and its success as an agent in inducing the brethren to give freely to this blessed work, we hereby heartily recommend it to the brotherhood at large, and urge our Elders and Evangelists to use their influence in extending its circulation.

D. L. Thomas,
A. E. Myers,
J. D. Pickett.

The above report was unanimously adopted by the Convention.

On motion of R. Moffett, the report of the Board of Managers was adopted.

The Committee on Obituaries, by their Chairman, E. Goodwin, made the following report:

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

Since our last General Convention, many of our brethren have been called from their labors on earth to the rest that remains for the people of God, among whom may be mentioned brethren John B. New, Aaron Mitchell, David Anguish, George Campbell and Henry T. Anderson.

Bro. John B. New, of Indiana, an old and faithful preacher of the Word, whose labors for the last fifty years have resulted in much good in sowing the seed of the kingdom, and planting churches in different parts of the State in which he lived. He was a missionary man, a liberal contributor to the cause of missions, and a regular attendant at our Annual Conventions. We miss his presence at our

meetings, and his stirring appeals to arouse us to greater zeal in the cause of Christ.

Also we mention Bro. AARON MITCHELL, of Mason county, Ky., a worthy disciple of Christ, and friend of the missionary cause.

Bro. DAVID ANGUISH, of Glen Easton, West Virginia, was a man of great piety, a minister of the Word for about thirty-five years, one of the original movers in that State of a State missionary organization, and at the time of his death corresponding secretary of District No. 1. He was dearly beloved by many friends and brethren in Christ, and his labors in the Lord have not been in vain.

Bro. GEORGE CAMPBELL was one of God's noblemen; full of zeal for the cause of Christ, he was an untiring laborer in the Lord's vineyard. As a writer he was logical, brief and pointed, embodying much in few words. He was never absent from our General Conventions when it was in his power to be present. He always took a deep interest in the missionary work; his short, pointed and sometimes humorous addresses in our Conventions are doubtless remembered with pleasure by all the older members of this meeting. Bro. Campbell was a preacher of great power, and was instrumental in bringing many souls to Christ, who will shine as stars in his crown forever. He was a true man, a faithful Christian, a genial friend, and a useful preacher of the gospel; and as we confidently believe, has gone to reap a glorious reward in the Paradise of God.

Bro. H. T. ANDERSON was so well known as a preacher, writer and translator, that to mention his name is all that is necessary to bring to remembrance his virtues and his labors in the Master's cause. He was emphatically a man of faith and prayer. He was with us and took part in the formation of the "American Christian Missionary Society," and though he did not attend very many of our Conventions, his soul was in the work. He was truly a pious, devoted and faithful disciple of Christ.

ELIJAH GOODWIN,
J. J. MOSS,
JAMES CHALLEN. } *Committee.*

The Convention adopted the report of the Committee by a standing vote.

Bro. Moffett offered the following resolutions, which were heartily adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due, 1st, to the brethren and citizens of Louisville for the kind and hospitable manner in which we have been entertained.

2. To the various railroad and packet companies that have extended to members the courtesy of reduced rates of travel.

3. Also to the newspaper reporters for their full reports.

Dr. W. H. Hopson briefly and properly responded in behalf of the Christian churches of Louisville, to the vote of thanks given by the Convention.

The time—11 A.M.—having arrived for the address, the President introduced Bro. Jabez Hall, of Cleveland, who read Matthew v: 14-16 as the basis of his address.

After singing a hymn, the Convention listened to brief heartfelt addresses from brethren James Challen, Isaac Errett, Robert Moffett and Robert Milligan.

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

After a few closing remarks by the President, the Convention adjourned to meet in Indianapolis, Indiana, Tuesday evening, 7 P.M., after the third Lord's day in October, 1873.

Benediction by Dr. W. H. Hopson.

R. M. BISHOP, *President.*

F. M. GREEN, *Secretary.*

STATE SECRETARIES.

R. C. BARROW, *Tecumseh, Nebraska.* J. LOWE, *Cannon City, Minn.* J. J. ERRETT, *Paynesville, Missouri.* J. B. VAWTER, *West Liberty, Iowa.* J. LINDSAY, *Eureka, Illinois* L. L. CARPENTER, *Wabash, Indiana.* H. PANGBURN, *Mayslick, Kentucky.* T. W. CASKY, *Jackson, Mississippi.* T. M. HARRIS, *Atlanta, Georgia.* R. MOFFETT, *Bedford, Ohio.* E. A. LODGE, *Detroit, Michigan.* A. E. MYERS, *West Liberty, West Va.* L. A. CUTLER, *Louisa C. H., Virginia.* W. A. BELDING, *Troy, New York.* J. B. McCLEERY, *Winchester, Kansas.*

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.—SUMMARY.

On hand at beginning of year	$674 20	
Received during year	54,601 36	
		$55,275 56
Paid Benn Pittman	$75 66	
" Printing Minutes	343 67	
" Ira J. Chase, Pittsburg Mission	160 32	
" Jamaica Mission.	29 00	
" R. Poindexter	98 85	
" Thomas Munnell on expense account	271 96	
" " " Salary	2,500 00	
" State Conventions through Cor. Sec'y	51,800 39	
		$55,275 56

D. W. CHASE, REC. SEC.

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.

CINCINNATI, November 15, 1873.—I hereby certify to having examined the books and accounts of the Recordiug Secretary and Treasurer of the General Christian Missionary Convention, as exhibited to me, and found them correct as above set forth.

B. W. WASSON, Auditor.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This organization shall be called the *General Christian Missionary Oonvention.*

ART. II. Its objects shall be the spread of the Gospel in this and in other lands, according to the following plan of church co-operation:

SECTION 1. (*a*) There shall be a General Board and Corresponding Secretary.

(*b*) A Board and Corresponding Secretary for each State to co-oporate with the General Board.

(*c*) District Boards in each State, and a Secretary in each district, whose duty it shall be to visit all the churches in his district in order to induce them to accept the missionary work as a part of their Christian duty.

SEC. 2. There shall be an annual convention in each district, the business of which shall be transacted by messengers appointed by the churches; an annual convention in each State, the business of which shall be conducted by messeagers sent from the churches of the State, it being understood, however, that two or more churches, or all the churches of a district, may be represented by messengers mutually agreed upon; and an annual general convention, the business of which shall be conducted by messengers from the State conventions.

SEC. 3. The General Convention shall annually appoint nine brethren, who, together with the Corresponding Secretaries of the States and the Presidents of the State Boards, shall constitute a General Board, who shall meet annually to transact the general missionary business, and appoint a committee of five to superintend the work in the intervals between their annual meetings.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the General Board and Corresponding Secretary, to provide for and superintend missionary operations in destitute places not actualty in State and district organizations, and to promote the harmonious co-operation of all the State and District Boards and Convontions.

SEC. 5. There shall be also a State Board and Corresponding Secretary in each of the States, elected annually by the messengers sent to the State Convention, and it shall be the duty of said Boards and Secretaries to manage the missionary interests in their respective States in harmony with the system of general co-operation.

SEC. 6. Each State shall be divided into districts of suitable limits by the State Board; the messengers from the churches of each district shall elect, at their annual conventions, a Board and a Secretary; and the busi-

ness of each Secretary shall be to visit all the churche in his districts, and in co-operation with their own officers, induce them to contribute and send to the district Treasurer money for the support of missions.

SEC. 7. Each church, over and above the sums it may contribute for missionary work under its immediate control, shall give a pledge to pay annually to its district Treasurer a definite sum for other missionary work, and that one-half of such contributions may be under the control of the district Boards for missionary work in the districts, the other half to be sent to the State Board, to be divided equally between it and the General Board for their respective works; but this recommendation is not to be considered as precluding a different distribution of funds when the church contributing shall so decide.

SEC. 8. The churches shall send reports to the District Boards in time for District Conventions; the districts shall send up reports to the State Boards in time for the State Conventions, and the State Boards shall send up reports to the General Board in time for the General Conventions, so that a report of all our missionary operations may appear in the Minutes of the General Convention.

SEC. Each State Convention shall be entitled to two delegates in the General Convention, and to one additional delegate for every five thousand Disciples in the State.

ART. II. The officers of this Convention shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, an Auditor, and three Corresponding Secretaries, who shall be chosen annually, and shall continue in office till their successors are elected.

ART. IV. The Treasurer shall be required to give bonds for such an amount as the Committee of Five may determine.

ART. V. Seven members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The Committee of Five shall live in or near Cincinnati.

ART. VI. All Life Directors and Life Members of the A. C. M. Society, shall be members of this Convention.

ART. 7. The annual meetings of this Convention shall be held in Cincinnati, on Thursday, at 2 P. M., after the third Lord's day in October, or at such other time and place as shall have been designated at a previous meeting.

ART. VIII. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting of the Convention. But a year's notice of said change must be given, unless it is recommended by the Board.

BY-LAW—ADOPTED AT INDIANAPOLIS, 1870.

Resolved, That all members of the Church of Christ, who may attend the annual meetings of the "General Convention," shall be entitled to participate in its deliberations; and this is hereby adopted as a By-law of the Constitution.